

entertainment. Princely arrangements were made for the entertainment of visitors, comparing favorably with those of the best hotels. Nothing, in fact, was left undone to render the occasion enjoyable to the greatest possible extent.

N. S.

STAR OF BETHLEHEM.

Shine brightly, Star of Bethlehem,
Our earth illumine with light!
Let awe subdue ye, mighty winds,
Thy Lord is born to-night.

Proud Herod, bend thy kingly knee,
Let trembling seize thy heart;
For in the kingdom of this Babe
Thy soul shall have no part.

Oh, little hand so small and frail,
Within thy palm there lies
Creation, and those fingers bind
Our earth unto the skies.

Then shine, thou fairest star of heaven,
Make bright the wise men's way,
That all the world through them may know
The joys of Christmas day!

—*St. Mary's Chimes*

Written for the ADVOCATE.

The History of Indian Tribes in the Twin Territories.

II. THE CREEK NATION.

At the time of its discovery by De Soto (1540) this tribe of Indians was inhabiting the swampy country lying between the Ocmulgee and Coosa Rivers in Florida. This land abounded in creeks, hence it received the name "Creek Country" and its copper-colored inhabitants, "Creeks." The latter were also called Este Muskogee or Muscokulke, whence the word Muskogee, the present agency center of the survivors of that once brave race.

Of their country and primitive manner of life, Mr. Bancroft writes: "Their towns were situated on the banks of beautiful creeks; the waters of their bold rivers, from the Coosa to the Chat-

tahoochee, descended rapidly with a clear current through healthful and fertile regions. They (the Creeks) were careful in their agriculture, and, before going to war, assisted their women to plant. In Florida they welcomed the Spanish missionaries, and throughout their country they derived so much benefit from the arts of civilization that their numbers soon promised to increase, and being placed between the English, of Carolina; the French, of Louisiana; the Spaniards, of Florida; bordering on the Choctaws, the Chickasaws and the Cherokees, their political importance made them esteemed as the most powerful Indian nation north of the Gulf of Mexico."

They claimed common origin with the Chickasaws, Choctaws and Cherokees, and that they had come out from the ground somewhere in the distant northwest and thence migrated southeasterly. But some in our own day claim that this family of Indians came from the southwest and that it once formed a branch of the Pueblo Indians. There is a great similarity in personal features and system of government between these two tribes, hence, the inference that they originally formed one family. We know this much, however, that the Creeks drove the Euchees northward from Louisiana and other southern states into Alabama. It is said that a Euchee chief on arriving within the present limits of the state of Alabama halted, stuck his spear into the rich soil, and cried out "Alabama!"—here we rest—whence the name of the same state and the future name of the Euchees.

The Creeks formed with the Cherokees, Choctaws and Chickasaws the famous confederacy known in history as the Mobilian Confederacy, thus making one of the four great families east of the Mississippi. Though not as hostile as the two northern families—the Algonquin and the Iroquois—still the